



EDGEWATER  
*at porpoise bay*



300-550 Robson Street  
Vancouver B.C. V6B 2B7  
[www.onni.com](http://www.onni.com)

# Homeowners Manual

## Introduction

Congratulations on the purchase of your new home at Edgewater. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to your new home and the neighbourhood! The Onni Group prides itself in constructing homes of the highest quality and in providing our homeowners with a first-class experience.

Please note that this manual is not intended to deal with all issues related to your new home however; it will better acquaint you with the neighbourhood, and provide you with a summary of the more important maintenance issues you can expect to encounter with regard to caring for your new home.

**No Home Is Maintenance Free!**

Proper and timely maintenance can extend the life of many of the components and systems incorporated in your new home, and help you to protect your investment.

These maintenance recommendations are intended to provide you with a basic understanding of the maintenance requirements of your home, however, should any questions arise, please contact either Onni Group Of Companies, or the specific product supplier or manufacturer. Undertaking maintenance is not for everyone. If you are uncomfortable undertaking any specific maintenance task, hire a professional.

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# General Information

## Community Information

### Safety & Emergency

Ambulance – Police – Fire – Rescue (EMERGENCY Calls Only)	911
Police (Non-Emergency)	604-885-2266
Fire (Non-Emergency)	604-885-7017
Ambulance (Non-Emergency)	604-872-5151
Sechelt Hospital	604-885-2224
Sechelt Clinic	604-885-2257
St. Mary's Hospital	604-885-2224
Forest Fire Reports	1-800-663-8911
Poison Control Centre	1-800-567-8911
Marine & Air Craft Distress	1-500-567-5111

### City Services

Sechelt Taxi	604-885-3666
Sechelt Animal Hospital	604-855-2309
City of Sechelt (General Inquires)	604-885-1986
<i>after hours 24 hour emergency line</i>	<i>1-866-951-7450</i>

## Community Information

We have only highlighted some of the great facilities and services, and invite you to visit the following website as a source of additional information

[www.district.sechelt.bc.ca](http://www.district.sechelt.bc.ca)

## **Parks, Recreation, Culture & Entertainment**

### **District of Sechelt – City Hall**

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor – 5797 Cowrie Street  
PO Box 129, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A0  
604-855-1986

### **Sechelt Public Library**

[sechelt.bc.libraries.coop/](http://sechelt.bc.libraries.coop/)  
5797 Cowrie Street  
Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A0  
604-885-3260

### **Sechelt Aquatic Centre**

[scrd.ca/Sechelt-Aquatic-Centre](http://scrd.ca/Sechelt-Aquatic-Centre)  
5500 Shorncliffe Ave  
Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A0  
604-855-6865

### **Raven’s Cry Theatre**

[ravenscrytheater.com](http://ravenscrytheater.com)  
555 Sunshine Coast Hwy  
Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A0  
604-885-4597

### **Tems Swiya Museum**

555 Sunshine Coast Hwy  
Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A0  
604-885-6012

### **Porpoise Bay Provincial Park**

Sechelt Inlet Road, East Porpoise Bay

### **Picadilly Park**

6345 Jasper Road, West Sechelt

# Important Information & Addresses

## **Holywell Properties**

103 – 5711 Mermaid Street  
Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A0  
Hours: 9AM – 5PM, Monday to Friday  
604-885-3460  
[info@holywell.ca](mailto:info@holywell.ca)

## **Travelers Canada – Warranty**

2500 – 650 West Georgia Street  
Vancouver, BC, V6B 4N7  
604-684-6574  
Toll Free: 1-800-555-9431

## **Onni Customer Care**

P: (604)-602-7711  
F: (604)-688-7907  
[customercare@onni.com](mailto:customercare@onni.com)

## **DURING BUSINESS HOURS**

### **Onni Group**

300-550 Robson Street  
Vancouver, BC, V6B 2B7  
P: 604-602-7711  
F: 604-688-7907  
Attention: Customer Care  
(Monday –Friday 8:00am-5:00pm)  
(Holidays excluded)  
[customercare@onni.com](mailto:customercare@onni.com)

# The First Year in Your New Home

Your new home at **Edgewater** is complete and ready for your occupancy. However, during the first year there may be some minor adjustments that will need to be taken care of.

For the first year, your new home is covered by our comprehensive warranty. This is regulated by The Homeowner Protection Act and is supported by **Travelers New Home Warranty**, your third party warranty provider.

During construction and right through to the end of the first year, **Onni** will make every effort to warrant the quality and satisfaction of our product.

## Construction Inspections

In addition to our own quality control inspections, architects, city inspectors and other consultants, we inspect the building throughout the construction process to ensure all work is being completed with care and according to The Building and Municipal Codes and our specifications.

## Pre-Occupancy Orientation

A representative of **Onni** will guide you through a home orientation. At this time, any items needing attention will be identified and listed on the Pre-Occupancy Report and signed by both parties.

## Year-end Service Request

Towards the end of the first year of your one-year Workmanship and Materials Warranty, we again recommend that any concerns you have be documented and forwarded to our office. Please use the service request form provided or the form located on our website [www.onni.com](http://www.onni.com). Alternatively you may simply email your list to [customer care@onni.com](mailto:customer care@onni.com). A representative of **Onni** will contact you to arrange a review of your concerns; during regular business hours. Our representative will make repairs or adjustments as required under the terms and conditions of the B.C.'s Homeowner Protection Act. If you are not in agreement with the corrective measures taken or the standards, **Travelers New Home Warranty** or the **Homeowner Protection Office** can assist you with your concerns.

## **Your Role as a Homeowner**

Your role during the first year is very important. There are five things you should keep in mind to make certain your warranty serves you well.

1. Read all operation manuals that were supplied with your home. It is recommended although not essential that you fill out any warranty cards that were provided with the appliances.
2. It is suggested that you do not redecorate your walls with products such as wall coverings until the end of the first year. This will enable you to identify problems such as shrinkage cracks in the drywall and allow us to make repairs. Of course, you should feel free to paint and otherwise decorate your home as you wish.
3. Use and maintain all equipment properly as recommended in their respective manuals. This is especially true in regard to your humidity control, kitchen fans and other moisture control devices within your home. Please read the “Care and Maintenance” chapter of this manual for more details.
4. Keep informed of the work of your Strata Council, especially in regard to the warranty for common areas. Remember that the common area warranty starts with the first possession or occupancy of the first home. Thus the expiry for the common area warranty will be different than the expiry for residential homes.
5. If you wish an item to be covered by your warranty and corrected by Onni, please do not attempt the repairs yourself, or contract anyone else to do the work. Please note this does not apply to very minor paint or drywall flaws that are not covered by your warranty. You can correct these at any time.



## Warranty Information

The Homeowner Protection Act regulates the residential construction industry. Builder licensing and mandatory home warranty coverage came into effect July 1, 1999. The standard for home warranty coverage has been established by the act and is commonly referred to as a 2-5-10 warranty.

Home warranty is an insurance product. Only an insurance company that has been approved by the Financial Institutions Commission can provide the warranty coverage. Home warranty is a regulated insurance product designed for the benefit of new homeowners.

**First 12 months** – coverage for any defect in materials and labour within the home. The drywall warranty applies to shrinkage cracks and nail pops. We will repair them only once during the warranty period. It is recommended that homeowners wait until the 1 year mark, before requesting drywall repairs.

**First 15 months** - coverage for any defect in materials and labour in the common property of a multi-unit building.

**First 24 months** – coverage for any defect in materials and labour supplied for the electrical, plumbing, heating, ventilation and air conditioning delivery and distribution systems. In addition, coverage for any defect in materials and labour supplied for the exterior cladding, caulking, windows and doors that may lead to detachment or material damage to the New Home.

**5-year** – This warranty provides coverage for the building envelope for up to five years against unintended water penetration such that it causes, or is likely to cause, Material Damage to the New Home.

**10-year** – This is for structural defects

1. Any Defect in Materials and Labour that results in the failure of a Load Bearing part of the New Home, and
2. Any Defect which causes Structural Damage that materially and adversely affects the use of the New Home for residential occupancy.

## **Definitions**

**Building Envelope:** Means the assemblies, components and materials of a New Home which are intended to separate and protect the interior space of the New Home from the adverse effects of exterior climatic conditions. Interior space of the New Home includes all material not directly exposed to the exterior climatic conditions. Exterior climatic conditions mean the direct effect of weather on the above-grade portion of the New Home.

**Defect:** Means any design or construction that is contrary to the Building Code or that requires repair or replacement due to negligence of a Builder or person for whom the Builder is responsible at law.

**Delivery and Distribution Systems:** Means the mechanical and electrical systems for delivery and distribution of gas, electricity, water, waste, heat and air within and throughout a New Home, but excludes plumbing and electrical fixtures and appliances.

**Material and Labour:** Means only the Materials and Labour supplied by the Builder for construction of the New Home.

# Warranty Exclusions

## The warranty does not cover the following:

1. Weathering, normal wear and tear, deterioration consistent with normal industry standards;
2. Any loss or damage which arises while the New Home is being used primarily or substantially for non-residential purposes;
3. Materials, labour, or design supplied by an Owner;
4. Any damage to the extent it is caused or made worse by an Owner or Third Party;
5. Failure of an Owner to take timely action to prevent or minimize loss or damage, including the failure to give Onni prompt notice of a Defect or discovered loss or a potential Defect or loss;
6. Any damage caused by insects or rodents and other animals, unless the damage results from non-compliance with the Building Code by the Builder or its employees, agents, or sub-contractors;
7. Accidental loss or damage from acts of nature including, but not limited to, fire, explosion, smoke, water escape, glass breakage, windstorm, hail, lightning, falling trees, aircraft, vehicles, flood, earthquake, avalanche, landslide, and changes in the level in the underground water table which are not reasonably foreseeable by the Builder;
8. Bodily injury or damage to personal property or real property which is not part of the New Home;
9. Any defect in, or caused by, materials or work supplied by anyone other than the Builder or its employees, agents, or sub-contractors;
10. Changes, alterations, or additions made to the New Home by anyone after initial occupancy, except those performed by the Builder or its employees, agents, or sub-contractors under the construction contract or sales agreement, or as required by National Home Warranty.
11. Contaminated soil;
12. Subsidence of the land around the New Home or along utility lines, other than subsidence beneath footings of the New Home or under Driveways or Walkways;

13. Diminution in value of the New Home;
14. Landscaping, both hard and soft, including plants, fencing, detached patios, gazebos and similar structures;
15. Non-residential structures including sheds, garages, carports or outbuildings, or any structure or construction not attached to or forming an integral part of a multi-unit building or the New Home;
16. Commercial use area and any construction associated with a commercial use area;
17. Roads, curbs, and lanes;
18. Site grading and surface drainage, except as required by the Building Code;
19. The operation of municipal services, including sanitary and storm sewer;
20. The quality or quantity of water, either piped municipal water supply or from a well;
21. Damage caused or made worse by the failure of an Owner to take reasonable steps to mitigate any damage.

**For complete warranty information on coverage, exclusions, terms, etc., please refer Travelers Home Warranty 2-5-10 Home Warranty Certificate.**

## Owners' Duty to Mitigate Damage and Maintain

As per your National Home Warranty 2-5-10 home warranty certificate, you are required to maintain your new home and mitigate any damage to your new home, including damage caused by defects or water penetration.

You must take all reasonable steps to restrict damage to your new home if the defect requires immediate attention i.e. turn off water system in the event of a burst pipe.

For defects covered by the National Home Warranty, the duty to mitigate is met through timely notice in writing to your builder and National Home Warranty.

An owner's duty to mitigate survives even if;

- the new home is unoccupied,
- the new home is occupied by someone else other than the homeowner,
- water penetration does not appear to be causing damage, or
- the owner advises the strata corporation about the defect.

Unfortunately, if a defect occurs or is made worse due to an owner's failure to follow the maintenance procedures provided, or to mitigate any damage, it will be excluded from warranty coverage.

## Emergency Situations

An emergency is a situation that requires immediate attention – a situation that cannot wait until the following day. Emergencies to do with common property should be called into Holywell Properties and those within the strata lot would be called to the appropriate contactor/emergency responder.

**Emergency request(s)** In the event of a building emergency, please contact Holywell Properties at (604) 885-3460 during business hours. After hours, wait for the prompt to get the number for the person on call.

### **Situations that require emergency service may include:**

- Fire
- Flood
- Total stoppage of plumbing drains where all sinks, toilets or tubs will not drain
- Heating system failure during cold weather
- Gas leak
- Water leakage (Note: the homeowner/tenant is responsible to turn off the water in the suite at the first sign of a water leak)
- No water service – Contact District of Sechelt After Hours 24 Hour Emergency Line: 1-866-951-7450
- Major damage to the building
- Other serious incidences that require immediate attention.

## Classification of Problems

### What to Look For, What to Report, When and Who to Report to.....

Your home has been built to meet or exceed the standards of quality in materials and workmanship set out by the Building Code and the Homeowner Protection Act. In addition **Onni** takes great pride in the quality of its homes and the satisfaction of our customers.

Over the course of the first year of any new building, a certain amount of shrinkage of building materials is expected. There may be some cracking of drywall due to building material shrinkage or components adjusting and responding to their new environment. As well, there may be other items that you may notice, but do not constitute a hazard or, in any way interfere with the enjoyment of your home.

For your own piece of mind and convenience it is important to report problems at the appropriate time. Some items should be considered emergencies that should be dealt with immediately. Others may require prompt attention, but can wait until normal working hours. Lastly there are those items to be noted for the six month or year-end review. Below are examples of each type of problem and the appropriate response.

### Building or In-Suite Emergencies

An emergency is a problem that will affect the wellbeing of the resident(s) and requires immediate skilled attention to the defect. Examples might include:

- **Gas Smell:**

If at any time you smell gas contact your gas utility supplier immediately. They will check your system and advise you of any problems.

- **Water Leak:**

If the leak occurs between a fixture and a shut-off valve, close the shut-off valve immediately. If no shut-off exists locate the main water shut-off (usually located where the water line enters your home) and turn it off until the problem can be rectified.

- **Plugged Sewer Line or Fixture:**

A plugged fixture or sewer line generally occurs because users of the facility are flushing inappropriate materials down a toilet or drain. **DO NOT** continue to use the facility once a blockage has occurred. Attempt to unclog the line by using a plunger. If a larger blockage has occurred the services of a plumber may be required. If the blockage is the result of a proven builder defect then **Onni** will take full responsibility for the repair.

- **Electrical:**

Sparking - If a plug or outlet sparks excessively, immediately turn off the breaker and contact the electrical contractor listed in your Trades List or **Onni**. A small spark when an appliance is unplugged is not uncommon.

Circuit tripping - Appliances plugged into the same circuit that is tripping should be unplugged one at a time until an overload is alleviated. This will stop the breaker from tripping.

Power outage - If all power is out to your home, check to see if there is power to your neighbour's home. If there is power, check the main breaker on your electrical panel and reset it after checking for an overload. This may require the assistance of the building manager to open the electrical room closet.

- **No Heat:**

If the heating system does not appear to be operational ensure the thermostat has not been turned down. For electric heat check to ensure that the breaker is in the on position by tripping it off and resetting it. To re-light the pilot on a gas furnace refer to the operating manual for lighting instructions.

- **Building Entrance Systems:** I.E (a malfunction of the front or garage doors) Please contact the resident manager or property manager.

## Items Requiring Attention

Items falling into this category are those that could pose a safety hazard or which, if left unattended until the year-end review; can do greater harm to your home or the building. In our experience, these items are rare, but might include such things as:

- **Frozen Water Line:**

If garden hoses are left attached to hose bibs during the winter, freezing of the water line can occur. This becomes a problem once the water thaws, as a leak will occur. If accessible, heating the pipe with a hair dryer may thaw it out. If the frozen pipe is the result of a proven builder defect then **Onni** will take responsibility for the repair.

- Loose railings and other safety concerns,
- Malfunctioning plumbing
- Electrical problems, including inadequate heat or environmental control,
- Water seepage visible as damp areas on surfaces such as exterior stucco,
- Window seal failure (the space inside the sealed glass becomes foggy,
- Window cracks not due to accidents,
- Exterior or entry doors and windows that no longer fit or function properly,
- Cracked or broken tile in the shower not due to accidents.



## Service Procedures

If you feel a defect exists and is covered under the warranty, please provide **written correspondence** to **Onni** and your warranty provider. Upon receipt, a representative of **Onni** will contact you to arrange an appropriate time to review your concerns so that they may be dealt with effectively.

**Onni Group**  
300-550 Robson Street  
Vancouver, BC V6B 2B7  
Phone: 604-602-7711  
Fax: 604-688-7907  
[customercare@onni.com](mailto:customercare@onni.com)

***Please ensure that you review all of your warranty documentation closely so that you are aware of all the deadlines and complaint procedures.***

## Items for Year End Review

For the purpose of recording these items, **Onni** has provided service request forms for your convenience. By using this form, you will be able to note each item for review, giving appropriate details and date. Having a written record is important. We would appreciate your forwarding your service requests to us at approximately ELEVEN (11) MONTHS after your possession. Some examples of items that should be repaired/ replaced at the end of the year might include:

- drywall cracks
- nail pops
- cracked floor tile

It is our intention to rectify all of the warrantable defects that you may find in your home by the end of the year.

If you are not in agreement with the proposed corrective measures or the standards for repair, **Travelers Home Warranty** or the Homeowner Protection Office will assist you with your concerns.

## Year End Service Call

During this final visit your customer care representative will address any items that will require repair or adjustment to as per the warranty guidelines/ standards for your home.

Although this is your final regular service call our personnel are still available to advise you with concerns about your home.

***Onni would like to thank you for allowing us to be of service!***



## Care & Maintenance of Interior Finishes

The following advice is meant as a guide for the care and maintenance of the various finishes that may have been included in your home.

Generally we do not recommend the use of abrasive cleansers nor solvents for cleaning any item in your home.

### Flooring:

#### **Laminate flooring**

Sweep on a daily basis or as needed. **Never wet-mop a laminate floor.** Excess water can enter the gaps between boards at joints and can cause the floor to expand and can cause damage. Make sure to wipe up any spills immediately. Hard to clean areas can be spot cleaned with a moist towel or rag but be careful not to use too much water or cleaning liquid. Avoid using any cleaning tools that spray cleaner or water onto a surface. These cleaning tools may inject moisture in between the floor joints and cause damage to your floor.

Variations in humidity levels in the living space may cause some creaking and cracking and slight separation of the seams. Excessive humidity should be avoided. We recommend:

- Avoid excessive wet or damp mopping of the floor.
- Sweeping the floor on a daily basis.
- The use of felt pads or a similar product should be placed under table and chair legs.
- Planted pots should be isolated from the floor surface.
- Spills should be wiped up immediately.
- Avoid high heels or stiletto shoes.

#### **Hardwood**

Kiln dried material is used for the construction of hardwood floors. However, these materials are susceptible to movement caused by variations in humidity levels in the living space. Low humidity levels will cause the wood to separate slightly at the seams of the flooring. High humidity levels will cause the wood to expand. If excessive, this expansion may lead to cupping or swelling in the center of the board. These movements vary seasonally and can be somewhat controlled by monitoring the indoor moisture levels. The movement of the flooring may also create noises as it expands and contracts.

The appearance of hardwood flooring is easy to maintain and a dry mop or a hardwood cleaner, is all that is required for cleaning. The need for wax on hardwood floors is rare and many types of flooring are now factory finished and have specific maintenance requirements. Refer to your builder or flooring supplier for specific instructions

- Avoid excessive wet or damp mopping of the floor.
- Sweeping the floor on a daily basis.
- The use of felt pads or a similar product should be placed under table and chair legs.
- Planted pots should be isolated from the floor surface.
- Spills should be wiped up immediately.
- Avoid high heels or stiletto shoes.

### **Carpet**

Carpeting care basically consists of avoiding spills, cleaning high traffic areas regularly to remove surface dirt and vacuuming the entire carpeted area weekly to remove dirt. Consult your flooring supplier for the specific cleaning and maintenance requirements of the flooring products used in your home.

Carpets and rugs should be professionally cleaned every year depending on the use and appearance.

Carpets should be vacuumed regularly. They should be cleaned with steam. Avoid the use of soaps. The soaps if not removed properly can leave a residue that changes the P.H. balance of the carpet and cause the carpet to change color i.e. yellow. Avoid walking on the carpet in your bare or sock feet we recommend slippers with soles or soft soled shoes. The oil from the body will cause the carpet fibers in traffic areas to mat or stick together this is called pooling.

Carpet Drafting: In some cases a black line may be identified running along the wall. In most cases it will be an exterior wall or stairwell. This is called Carpet Drafting. The cause is from air pollutants such as diesel exhaust. The air enters the home, without being filtered, through open windows etc. The natural convection in the home causes hot air to rise and cold air to fall. Cold air will fall on exterior walls. The carpet will act as a filter and remove the pollutants. These pollutants will form a dark line along the wall. This cannot be prevented but regular cleaning may help. It will occur more rapidly in areas where there are heavy trucks or machinery operating on a regular basis. This phenomenon is becoming more apparent as our homes become more energy efficient and airtight.

**Please note:** Your warranty will be void if a Dyson vacuum is used, or one with a beater bar. These vacuums can cause excessive fluffing in wool and woven carpets.

### **Ceramic Shower Tiles**

Ceramic tile is very durable. For routine cleaning use a mild detergent; do not use waxes or sealers. As the grout is porous and will absorb water which will lead to staining, annual sealing of the grout joints with a clear liquid silicone sealer should be carried out.

Sealing of the grout is **your** decision and responsibility. It is however recommended. Applying a grout sealer will help to prevent water from penetrating through the grout and into the sub surface wall area. It is suggested that the tile surface be wiped down after each shower. An alternative that is gaining in popularity is the use of a squeegee. Some separation in the grout lines may occur. Cracks can be filled using a premixed grout purchased from a tile or hardware shop.

Ceramic floor tiles have been used in some areas of your home i.e. the bathroom(s). If you wish you may seal the grout between the tiles. This is **your** decision and responsibility.

We recommend:

- Using a broom to sweep the tile or a damp mop to wash the surface, household detergents can leave a film on the surface and strong degreasers may actually damage the grout.
- Remove any wet spillage immediately with a damp mop.

- Not waxing the floor tile. The surface may become very slippery.
- Padding be used to help avoid chipping the tile when moving a heavy object across the surface

**Interior Doors**

Interior door hardware can be wiped clean with a damp cloth and polished with a soft dry cloth. It should be noted that natural body oils and many hand lotions are detrimental to brass finishes and will cause tarnishing.

**Paint**

**Care and Maintenance if interior Latex Paint**

Latex paints in a lower sheen level like eggshell, satin and flat have created problems for homeowners for cleaning or washing walls.

Lower sheen products have pigment close to the surface and when cleaned improperly may burnish or become shiny. This is non-repairable other than repainting.

You could avoid this problem if you take the time to properly clean latex painted walls.

1. Do not attempt to wash walls prior to latex paint curing (30 days after application)
2. Always use a mild liquid detergent with no abrasives, (i.e.) dish soap
3. Apply liquid detergent onto a soft sponge - not cloth, as they act like an abrasive
4. Gently massage the detergent into the soiled area, allowing the detergent to attack the soiled area
5. Once soiled area is clean, rinse sponge out and wipe area gently with clean moist sponge

\*\* If you use this style of cleaning you will reduce burnishing by 90 to 95%.

Color Scheme	Colour/Type	Name
Walls	8436	White Delight, Eggshell Finish
Baseboards and Trim	No tint white	Semigloss latex finish K626
Ceiling	No tint white	Smooth and Flat finish K625

\*\*\*Paint was supplied by Sherwin William

## Counter Tops and Cabinets

### **Engineered Stone**

Engineered stone countertops only require a simple cleaning routine to maintain their attractive look. Regular cleaning using a damp cloth and a mild soap detergent is already enough. Because they are highly resistant to stains, they cannot be affected by coffee, tea, wine, soda, fruit juice, and vinegar spills. You can simply blot the spills, and your engineered stone countertop can look good as new again. Avoid using very strong chemicals (such as acid, alkaline material and acetone etc.) and other solutions with unidentified ingredients to clean your engineered stone countertop. Make sure your cleaning agent is recommended by your manufacturer. Read the label of your cleaning agent before using it to identify its components. Stay away from floor strippers and oven cleaners because they have very strong chemicals that can damage your countertop surface. **About Sealing** -Engineered Stones are made of nonporous material; engineered stone countertops do not require regular sealing to prevent staining, however annual sealing is strongly recommended for protection and the longevity of your countertops. Compared to granite countertops, engineered stone countertops are almost indestructible. They are not easily stained by fruit juices, wine, cooking oil, coffee, tea, nail polish and remover, lotions, and other common household liquids. Engineered stone countertops are also hygienic because they do not affect the taste of food or compromise its safety when it is prepared on their surface

### **Cabinets**

Wood, PVC & vinyl surfaced cabinets are very susceptible to heat damage. If the kitchen is equipped with a self-cleaning oven, the cabinet drawers and cabinet doors adjoining the range should be kept open when the range is in self-clean mode to allow excess heat to dissipate. If heat is allowed to build up, the surface may delaminate. This precaution should also be taken when the oven is used for a prolonged period at a high temperature.

Most cabinet surfaces can be cleaned using a damp cloth and a mild detergent. Abrasive cleaners should not be used. Grease splattered on the surfaces should be removed immediately as it becomes more difficult to remove as it solidifies.

### **Avoid:**

- The use of abrasive cleaners.

*Our cabinet suppliers have advised us that when using the self-clean cycle of the oven it is recommended that the doors and drawers adjacent to the oven be opened. The temperatures inside the stove in the self-clean cycle are very high. The heat can affect the laminate finishes.*

## Plumbing

### **General**

The plumbing in your new home consists of plastic and copper piping for the supply of potable water throughout the home and PVC plastic piping for the waste disposal. Other products are available but are less common.

A main water supply shut off has been provided to shut off the water supply to your new home. This can be used in the event of an emergency and should be located upon occupancy for future reference. Additional shutoffs may also have been provided to the sink supply lines and toilets to allow for routine maintenance.

The waste lines have been provided with clean outs throughout the residence. These may be located within cabinets, inside closets or clearly visible on a wall surface. These clean outs must remain accessible as they are the means of access to the piping should a blockage occur. P-traps are present at the outflow of all waste piping. These traps are designed to provide a barrier of water, which prevents the entry of sewer gases into the home. Sinks or drains, which are used infrequently, may lose this water barrier due to evaporation. If sewer gases are detected, running water down the waste pipe will re-prime the trap and likely stop the odor. Any waste materials, including grease, fat and petroleum products, should not be disposed of down the plumbing system. These materials will accumulate in the piping, especially in the P-traps, and can significantly reduce the flow of water through the waste system. These substances are also very detrimental to the municipal sewage treatment systems and private septic systems.

### ***Fixtures***

The surfaces of the plumbing fixtures are susceptible to damage from abrasive cleaners. Use of abrasive products and steel wool pads should be avoided as these products will cause the finish of the fixture to become dull and porous. Refer to the manufacturer's recommended maintenance procedures for specific information relating to your products. From paint stripper to nail polish remover, household solvents are all too common throughout every home. A solvent is a substance that dissolves another substance forming a solution. Solvents that contain carbon are known as organic solvents and can contain chemicals considered hazardous -- they can be flammable and toxic. Some household maintenance and cleaning products contain organic solvents such as petroleum distillates. These are sometimes used to dissolve difficult stains or greases on certain materials that may be damaged by water-based cleaners. Plumbing fixtures are intended for normal household use only. Caustic products should not be disposed of in the household fixtures.

### ***Toilets***

Toilets generally refill as follows: flushing causes water in the tank to rise, which in turn lifts a ball float to a preset water level. Once the ball float reaches this level, the water flow valve is shut off. If set too high, the water level will rise in the tank and run down the overflow pipe into the toilet bowl without shutting off the water. To rectify this, simply adjust the height of the ball float so that the water is shut off before it reaches the height of the overflow outlet.

If water continuously runs into the toilet bowl from the tank, there may be a poor seal at the flapper valve at the base of the tank. This seal can be cleaned with a stiff brush or steel wool. A worn flapper valve would require replacement.

Water dripping from the base of the toilet tank is likely due to condensation on the tank versus a leak of any connections. High interior humidity levels will result in condensation on the cold surface of the toilet tank as the tank is refilled with cold water.

Some toilets and some basins are made of glazed and kiln-fired vitreous china, while some basins and bathtubs are made of enameled steel. Both are very durable and attractive. To clean these fixtures, use mild powdered or liquid cleaners. Avoid abrasive cleansers or pads as they will damage the finish.

Newer Energy efficient (low-volume or dual flush) toilets use less water to flush than older models. The operation of some new toilets is more sensitive to the effects of the:

- a. amount of waste
- b. amount and type of papers
- c. volume of water in the tank.

### ***Plugged toilets and Drains***

Toilets are very susceptible to blockage. New toilet designs use very little water per flush. This results in a lower volume of water carrying away the waste. Repeated flushing may be required in some instances to remove solid waste. Dense tissue paper and some thick toilet papers are unsuitable for these toilets. Never dispose of hair, grease, lint, diapers, sanitary products, “Q-tips” or plastic in the toilet. Please note, this is not under warranty. Hair, grease, large food particles or other solid forms of waste can plug drains. Should they become plugged, try removing the debris from the trap beneath the fixture. Alternatively, a plunger can be used. Once partially cleared, very hot water may complete the job. A more severe blockage may require a plumber. As commercial drain cleaners are very corrosive they are not recommended.

### ***Faucet Repairs***

Noisy or leaking faucets are frequently due to loose or damaged washers. Turning the fixture off with too much force can damage washers. Faucet handles should be turned no further than the point at which they stop the flow of water.

Faucets can generally be easily repaired by either replacing the damaged washer or the faucet cartridge itself. Basic home repair books describe how to repair typical faucets; however, due to variations in the methods of manufacture, specific instructions may be required. Prior to beginning the repair, the water supply must be shut off at the shut off valves provided. If such valves are not present, the entire water supply system will need to be shut off at the main shut off valve.

Contact a plumber if you are uncomfortable attempting this repair. Green staining of fixtures is usually a water related issue due to the chemical compositions in the water, and is not a builder defect.

Taps should be cleaned with clear water and dried with a soft cloth. Do not use chemical cleaners or abrasive pads. These products may cause de-plating of the finishes.

Plumbing fixtures are susceptible to damage from abrasive cleansers. Use of abrasive products and steel wool pads should be avoided, as these products will cause the finish to become dull and porous.

Green staining of fixtures is usually a water related issue due to the chemical compositions in the water, and is not a builder defect. A solution of baking soda and white table vinegar will generally remove these stains. Thoroughly rinse with water after cleaning.

Stainless Steel Sinks can be cleaned with a mild abrasive such as Vim. Avoid steel wool as they will leave small bits of metal lodged in the sink and will cause rust spots to show. The sink does not rust. **Caution:** Use of anti-bacterial soaps may cause discoloration of the surface if the sink is not rinsed thoroughly after use.

Waste disposers should have cold water run through it before, during the emulsification and after. The water before and after will help to flush the main sewer lines. Avoid greases as they may build up in the trap in your drain and cause a blockage. Fibrous foods such as celery will jam under the pivots and cause them to stick. To help clean the appliance place 2 -4 ice cubes in the Disposer, every 1 - 2 months, and turn it on. If the Disposer fails to come on check to make sure that the thermal protector on the motor has not tripped. There is a small reset button located on the side or bottom of the unit - push it in. Confirm that there are no foreign objects in the unit before resetting.

### ***Tub and Shower Enclosures***

A shower curtain will prevent water from running onto the bathroom floor while the shower is in use. To prevent damage to the flooring or walls, any spills or puddles of water should be cleaned up immediately.

Caulking is used to seal seams and prevent water from entering behind the enclosure. If a separation occurs around your bathtub between the tub and the wall tiles or between the wall and the enclosure itself, it should be filled immediately with a tub sealer or caulking compound available at any home supply center. Leaving the gap unsealed may cause serious water damage to adjacent materials.

You should apply a clear liquid silicone sealer to the grout joints of tub or shower enclosures that are finished with ceramic tile. This should be done every six months. This sealer is used to prevent the porous grout from allowing water to seep through to the substrate material behind the tile. This sealing cannot be done until the grout has cured for approximately six to eight weeks. Please note this is a liquid product and should not be confused with silicon based caulking. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for application.

Some tub enclosures have specific cleaning requirements. Generally, abrasive cleaners are not recommended and harsh chemical cleaners should be avoided entirely. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for maintenance. Also, you should never step into a bathtub with shoes on as trapped grit and dirt can damage the tub surface.

### ***Gas***

If, at any time, you smell gas, contact your gas utility supplier, Fortis BC immediately by calling their 24 Hour Emergency Line 1-800-663-9911. They will check your system and advise you of any problems.

## **Electrical Systems**

### ***General***

The electrical system in your home has been installed in accordance with the requirements of the provincial electrical code. The power supply is fed to the home via underground or



overhead cable. With underground service cables, piping, gas lines, etc., care should be taken when digging on your property. For information on these underground services, contact your hydro, gas provider, TELUS, or your cable supplier or your local building department.

Circuit protection will be via circuit breakers located in the electrical panel(s). The main power shut-off will be located inside the electrical panel or immediately adjacent to it. This panel and the location of the main breaker should be located upon moving into your new home.

Should the circuit breaker “trip”, it is likely due to overloading of a specific circuit or a short circuit in an appliance cord. The start-up load of electric motors can also temporarily overload a circuit. To correct tripped breakers, isolate the cause of the overload or short and disconnect it. The circuit breaker can then be reset by turning it to the "off" position and then to the "on" position. If the breaker continually trips, contact an electrician.

### ***G.F.C.I. Circuits***

A ground fault circuit interrupter (G.F.C.I.) is an additional electrical safety device installed in the electrical system. This device is a breaker that can be located in the main electrical panel or within specialty outlet receptacles and is designed to provide protection from ground faults. The G.F.C.I. is extremely sensitive and will trip if grounding of the electrical current is detected. Ground faults usually occur in older appliances and electrical equipment or inexpensive extension cords. A poorly insulated extension cord lying on wet ground will often cause a ground fault. Because water and electricity are a poor combination, protection is installed to the outlets in the bathroom and outdoors. If this breaker trips, unplug the source of the ground fault and reset the breaker either at the panel or at the outlet itself. G.F.C.I. outlets should be tested monthly to ensure their proper operation. Please note that two outlets can be located on the same G.F.C.I. receptacle as they are connected on the same circuit.

### ***Smoke and Fire Detectors***

Smoke detectors have been installed in accordance with the requirements of the Building Code. They should be tested monthly to ensure their proper operation, and should be cleaned twice a year with a vacuum.

Please note that these devices are connected directly to the electrical system of the home and do not require batteries. However, they will not operate in a power outage unless the unit has a backup battery.

## **Heating and Ventilation**

### ***Baseboard Heaters***

Baseboard heaters should be cleaned periodically with a damp cloth to remove any dust that has accumulated over time. If baseboard heaters have not been cleaned, you may notice a burning smell caused by the burning of surface dust when the heater is initially turned on after an extended period of time. Please note that the area directly around baseboard heaters should be kept clear to prevent any potential fire hazards.

In addition; baseboard heaters often make a ticking or humming noise when heating up or cooling down. This is caused by the expansion and contraction of the aluminum fins within the

metal housing of the heater. This type of noise may vary from one baseboard heater to another but is not a cause for concern and is considered normal; this is not covered under warranty.

### **Ventilation**

Ventilation is often the only effective means for removing moisture. Dehumidifiers are only practical in limited areas. Exhaust fans in the kitchen and bathroom will remove moisture created from cooking and bathing before the vapor can circulate through the house. These fans need to be run often enough to remove the moisture. **Your home is equipped with a fan timer that controls the fan in your main bathroom. It is recommended that this fan is programmed to operate for four hours twice a day every day.**

### **Ventilator**

Your unit is also equipped with a central ventilator motor located in the bathroom or laundry closet of your home. This motor runs constantly and is set up to circulate fresh air into your unit as well as exhaust the bathrooms. It will remove excess moisture and humidity from inside your unit and replace it with fresh air from the exterior. It has been recommended you inspect/clean the unit annually. Please note that the motor in your unit runs constantly and to turn this off, you must do so at the breaker. There is also fan switch located in the upstairs bedroom closet for temporary stoppage- this is labelled 'fan switch'

To clean- please make sure to turn the fan off using the switch in the upstairs bedroom, then remove the cover and vacuum out the fan or use a cloth with warm water and a mild soap. Please ensure to rid the fan of any excess water before turning it back on.

Windows are also an effective means of ventilation and depending on weather conditions, thoroughly airing out the home for 15 minutes a day may suffice. In addition, opening a window near the source of moisture while the exhaust fan is in operation will allow for cross ventilation and more effective moisture and odor removal.

If high relative humidity levels occur inside your new home during periods of very cold weather, condensation and frost on the inside face of the windows will occur. This is a ventilation issue and is not a fault with the window. Condensation can result in the growth of mold on the window frame that can be controlled with a mild solution of bleach and water.

If you are experiencing condensation on your windows, below are a few effective and efficient ways to reduce the condensation in your home.

- ✓ Use exhaust fans while cooking
- ✓ When doing laundry, please be sure to open a window and run the booster fan (if included in your laundry center).
- ✓ Close the bathroom door and open a window after baths and showers
- ✓ Use bathroom exhaust fans while having a bath or shower
- ✓ Ventilate the home at least once a day by opening a window or door
- ✓ Open the blinds and drapes throughout the day to allow for air circulation on windows
- ✓ Move furniture roughly 12-16 inches from windows and heaters

### **Range Hoods and Exhaust Fans**

Range hoods and exhaust fans are provided to reduce or eliminate cooking odors and excess moisture. For efficient operation and to reduce potential fire hazards created by grease accumulation, filters should be washed frequently.

### **Appliances**

The appliances included with the purchase of your new home have been checked to ensure that they are operating properly.

All of the appliances in your new home come with a manual, which detail the operating procedures for the specific appliance. These instructions must be followed in order to maintain the manufacturer's warranty. Any warranty cards provided with the equipment should be completed and sent to the manufacturer to ensure your warranty obligations are met.

*\*\*With dryers, check and clean the exterior vents on a monthly basis as they commonly become plugged with lint which reduces the efficiency of the dryer and can be a fire hazard.*

*\*\*Please note that it is recommended that the lint trap in the dryer itself should be cleaned after every load of dried laundry. Failure to clean this lint trap as recommended may result in condensation build up in the dryer duct and trap moisture in the ceiling or walls of your home.*

Kitchen fan and filter requires cleaning. The frequency of cleaning required will depend on how often the range is used and what type of cooking is done. The filter is made of a steel mesh that performs best when clean. It is easily removed and cleaned by soaking in warm water with regular detergent. It is also recommended to clean the fan and housing as well.

Bathroom fan(s) installed in your home are intended to be an integral part of your home's ventilation system. A manual switch will control one fan. Some switches can be overridden by the de-humidistat controller when the humidity level in the home is higher than the setting on the controller. The fan(s) should be cleaned seasonally by removing the dust and dirt that has built up on the fan blades and grille.

The Fan Timer will activate the bathroom fan at pre-scheduled times.

Smoke alarm(s) are installed for your safety and protection. Please familiarize yourself with their function and care.

## Care & Maintenance of Exterior Building Components

### ***Frozen Water Line***

If garden hoses are left attached to hose bibs during the winter, freezing of the water line may occur. This is a result of the water that is standing in the hose and hose bib to freezing and causing the metal in the hose bib to expand and crack. The resultant crack will create a water leak. This hose bib will need to be replaced.

### ***Masonry***

Neither the mortar joints in the stone/brickwork nor the stone/bricks themselves are entirely waterproof. Periodically, the mortar joints should be checked for cracks. Hairline cracks are not problematic; however, if these cracks are excessive, they should be re-pointed to reduce the potential for moisture related problems. Re-pointing involves cleaning out loose mortar to a depth of at least ½” and filling the space with new mortar which is available at your local building supply store.

The bottom course of stone/brick contains intentional openings (weep holes) which allow for the drainage of moisture from the cavity located behind the stone/brick. These openings must remain unobstructed and must be a consideration when landscaping.

White dust or staining on the masonry surface is referred to as efflorescence. It is the result of salts within the masonry or mortar that migrate to the surface of the stone/brick with time. It can usually be controlled with water and a light scrubbing. More persistent occurrences can be washed off with muriatic acid or baking soda. Should efflorescence continually reoccur in a localized area, it may be due to a specific water source such as a leaking gutter. If so, the problem should be identified and corrected. The type of stone/brickwork used on your home is located at the end of this document.

### ***Caulking***

Flexible sealing compounds are generally referred to as caulking. Numerous varieties exist and have many specialized uses. Caulking is generally used to seal gaps between dissimilar materials on the exterior of the building and to seal gaps or joints in exterior finishes.

As the building moves due to the shrinkage of the building framing members and/or the finishing materials themselves, considerable stress is placed on the caulking materials. While a caulking joint should never be the only means of preventing water from entering a building, it is one of the initial means of keeping water out. Therefore, caulking requires examination annually before the wet weather arrives. Any cracked or damaged caulking should be removed and replaced.

### ***Decking and Handrails***

Balconies and handrails are exposed to rain, snow and sun. Cracking, warping and splitting of wooden deck materials is normal and cannot be prevented. Painted surfaces will chip and peel and should be touched up annually before the onset of poor wet weather. Care must be taken not to damage any deck membranes and any damage must be repaired immediately. The use of a mild cleaning detergent and a brush should be adequate.

### **Weather-Stripping**

Weather-stripping is installed around doors and windows to reduce air infiltration. Check the weather-stripping annually to ensure that the seal is adequate. Some weather-stripping is adjustable and the door should be slightly difficult to latch or lock. Petroleum jelly can be used to lubricate rubber or vinyl products to maintain their flexibility

### **Windows**

Window glazing is typically made of glass with the exception of some skylights that may use an acrylic glazing. Current building standards require the use of double glazed sealed units mounted in thermally broken frames. There is a wide assortment of frame types and the material used can vary widely. Windows may open in different fashions: they may slide horizontally or vertically, open outwards like a door or tilt open in the fashion of an awning. Typical windows require minimal maintenance. Window hardware should be cleaned and lubricated every 3 months. Any accumulated grime or debris should be removed from between the window and the frame.

Most window designs incorporate a drainage track at the bottom of the window to collect any condensation that runs off of the glazing. These tracks will have weep holes to the outside to drain this moisture. These holes must be kept clean and can be maintained with a short piece of wire or a cotton swab.

Condensation between the layers of glass within the window frame indicates that the sealed unit has failed. The glazing unit will require replacement as there is no method of repairing sealed units. If failure of the sealed unit occurs after the expiry of the first year of warranty coverage, contact your window supplier as the cost of this repair may be partially borne by the manufacturer.

- Use plenty of clean water for washing and rinsing.
- The use of harsh detergents is not recommended.
- Do not use abrasive cleaners.
- Remove stubborn stains with alcohol or a slightly acidic solvent. Clean with clear water immediately.
- Avoid solvents on frames. Should some solvent residue be on the frame, rinse immediately with clear water.
- Do not use sharp objects such as scrapers. These will scratch the glass.

Window seal failure: Condensation between the layers of glass within the window frame indicates that the air seal of the glass has failed. The sealed unit will need to be replaced. If the failure occurs after the first year warranty coverage, contact the window supplier/ manufacturer. The cost of the replacement may be partially borne by the manufacturer.

### **Doors**

Exterior swing doors are generally made of solid wood, metal, wood over a foam core or fiberglass. Sliding patio doors are usually constructed with metal or vinyl frames and are supplied by the window manufacturer.

Exterior doors are exposed to detrimental weather conditions and extreme temperature variations from the inside to the outside which can harm the surface of the door. Variations in the relative humidity from the interior to the exterior can also affect the door. Collectively or separately, these conditions can cause doors to warp or change in dimension. Seasonal variations can occur up to 1/4" in any direction. It is prudent to refrain from trimming a binding exterior door as the problem may rectify itself with a change in climatic conditions. Some exterior doors have restrictions imposed by the manufacturer as to the color the door may be painted. The heat absorbed by darker colors can cause failure of the sealing compounds in the glazing and/or cause excessive warping of the door. The wrong paint color may void the manufacturer's warranty; therefore, any such restrictions should be reviewed prior to the door being painted.

## Trade List

We are pleased to provide you with a list of our trades. Please contact them directly with questions regarding their product.

Trade	Company	Phone Number	Email
Appliances	Trail Appliances	(604) 777-3300 EXT # 2	N/A
Aluminum / Metal Railings	IGN Systems	604-820-0110	max@ignsystems.ca
Blinds	Brite Blinds	(604)-670-6903	blinds@briteblinds.ca
Cabinets	Sunrise Cabinets	(604) 597-0364	info@sunrisekitchens.com
Carpet	Timeline Floors	(778)-785-7355	info@timelinefloors.com
Counters	Valley Countertops	1(800)-506-9997	info@valleycountertops.com
Doors	Crown Doors	(604) 504-1658	info@crowndoor.ca
Electrical	Olson Electrical	(604) 885-0599	sales@olsonelectric.ca
Hardwood	Timeline Floors	(778)-785-7355	info@timelinefloors.com
HVAC	Corona Gas	(604) 576-6457	Corona_gas@telus.net
Interior Hand Rails	Spanish Wood Manufacturing	(604) 942-4297	info@spanishwood.ca
Landscaping	Houston Lanscapes	(604) 734-0907	projects@houstonlandscapes.ca
Painting	Voytek Painting Ltd.	(604)-727-3077	voytek61@hotmail.com
Roofing	All Seasons Roofing Ltd	(604)-248-53641	seasonsroofing@hotmail.com
Shower Doors, Mirrors	Rahul Glass	(604) 596-2651	askus@rahulglass.com
Sprinkler (fire)	Titan Fire Protection	(604) 721 6594	titanfireprotection@hotmail.com
Tile	Timeline Floors	(778)-785-7355	info@timelinefloors.com
Vinyl Decking	Hallmark Manufacturing Ltd.	(604) 549-0212	N/A
Windows	Starline Architectural Ltd	(604) 882 5100	sales@starlinewindows.com

### Onni Group

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Phone: 604-602-7711  
Fax: 604-688-7907

Email: [customercare@onni.com](mailto:customercare@onni.com)



## General – F&Q

### Home Warranty, Deficiencies and Service Requests

#### When does my home warranty expire?

All homeowners are provided with a 12 month warranty for their unit. The expiration date of your warranty is 1 year following your completion date.

For all major distribution warranties, plumbing, electrical etc you are provided with a 2 year warranty.

#### What does my home warranty cover?

Your home warranty will cover you for defects in labour and materials. You can submit any urgent deficiencies via a service request by going to [www.onni.com](http://www.onni.com) and submitting a service request form or contacting [customercare@onni.com](mailto:customercare@onni.com). All cosmetic deficiencies will be addressed upon your year-end appointment.

#### What are considered cosmetic deficiencies and when is my year end appointment?

Cosmetic deficiencies are anything from drywall cracks, nail pops, cracked tiles etc, anything cosmetic that is not an urgent deficiency or anything that, if untreated, will cause further damage. Your year-end appointment is completed 1 year following your completion date on your unit.

#### What is considered an Urgent Deficiency?

Any Urgent deficiency is anything that will cause ongoing damage or will cause damage to another unit. Examples of these are leaks, electrical problems, heating not working, ventilation fans not working or plumbing issues.

#### What is my (homeowners) responsibility?

The homeowner is responsible for items such as changing light bulbs, sealing of tile/grout, shower/tile silicone, normal wear and tear items and any damage you have caused to your unit.

#### Is there anything not under warranty I should be aware of?

Yes, the following will not be covered under your warranty



- Your garbage disposal will not be covered under warranty for blockages due to the large number of homeowner depositing the wrong foods through the disposal. The garbage disposal is for soft foods ONLY, no bones. Please follow steps to clean blockages, under General Home Maintenance before contacting Onni.
- Any homeowner damage caused by the homeowner themselves.
- Any plumbing issues that result in drain blockage cause by homeowner. If a plumber is called out to attend under a service request and the homeowner is found at fault, this cost will be on charged to the homeowner.
- Damage to window sills caused by condensation. Please read all window condensation information and what to do to mitigate damage especially during the winter months.

### **How do I submit a service request?**

To submit a service request list your deficiencies, be specific and provide as much information as possible then submit it by one of the following means.

Email: [customercare@onni.com](mailto:customercare@onni.com)

Online: [www.onni.com](http://www.onni.com)

## **APPLIANCES**

### **My Appliance is not working/broken**

If you are having any issues with your appliances please contact Trail directly.

TRAIL – (604) 777-3300 EXT #2

You will require the serial number and model name of your appliance, there will be a sticker that clearly labels these on your appliance. You may also require a copy of your Certificate of Completion (COP); you will have received this from Travelers Home Warranty 2-3 weeks following the purchase of your new home. Should you not have your COP please do not hesitate to contact Onni Customer Care for a copy.

### **How long is my warranty period on Appliances?**

Your warranty period from Trail Appliances is one year following the completion date of your unit.

## **Can I get an extended warranty on my appliances?**

Extended warranties are available through Trail Appliances (604) 777-3300 EXT #2

## **GENERAL HOME MAINTENANCE**

### **Garbage Disposal**

If your garbage disposal stops working, please follow these steps.

- Turn breaker off or unplug
- Remove any all containments from inside
- rotate the bottom turbine ½” by using a wooden spoon
- hit the reset button on the bottom
- plug back in or turn breaker back on

Repeat steps until it works again

Please remember, your garbage disposal is for soft foods ONLY. Do not put any hard food wastes down the disposal unit such as bones, fruit pips/stones etc.

### **Dryer – Lint Trap**

Please make sure to clean your lint trap regularly, failure to do so may result in longer drying time of clothes and/or excess condensation in your unit.

### **Noise Transmission**

Structure-borne noise is inevitable within condominium/townhome living, the noise from one unit, walking etc, creates a vibration that is transmitted through the building structure. During construction Onni endeavors to help reduce this noise by way of installing soft close catches on all cabinetry and installing foam underlay under all carpet and hardwood flooring.

Please be mindful of other units and your noise between 10pm – 8am.

## Window Condensation

Many of you may experience condensation on your windows. Newly constructed homes may temporarily exhibit a higher potential for condensation as moisture in plaster, cement and other building materials escape into the air during the first heating season. New homes are also built to be more energy efficient, the tighter seal allows for less air flow thus creating more condensation.

The first step of preventing condensation is controlling humidity. Although excessive humidity shows up as condensation on the cold surface of a window, the window is probably not the source of the condensation problem.

Condensation occurs in your home when moist air comes into contact with a surface which is at a lower temperature. Moist air contains water vapour, commonly referred to as humidity. Indoors, we can increase humidity through our activities and lifestyle. If a surface in your home is cold enough, the air in the immediate vicinity of the surface will be cooled sometimes causing the moisture in the air to condense or change into a liquid on the surface. We add to humidity levels in our home through our activities and lifestyle. Water vapour is added to the air in large quantities by our breathing and perspiration, cooking, bathing, cleaning and other daily activities.

Below are a few effective and efficient ways to reduce the condensation in your unit.

- ✓ Use exhaust fans while cooking
- ✓ When doing laundry, please be sure to open a window and run the booster fan (if included in your laundry center).
- ✓ Close the bathroom door and open a window after baths and showers
- ✓ Use bathroom exhaust fans while having a bath or shower
- ✓ Ventilate the home at least once a day by opening a window or door
- ✓ Open the blinds and drapes throughout the day to allow for air circulation on windows
- ✓ Move furniture roughly 12-16 inches from windows and heaters
- ✓ Turn heaters on, between 18-22 degrees

If window condensation is not controlled, it may create mold in your window frames. If this occurs, please clean with a mild bleach and water solution. If your home is affected by condensation please try the above tips and take all necessary steps to mitigate any damage.